Reimbursement of Salaries of Car Drivers of Officers of Banks

1998. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether officers of certain nationalised banks who have engaged their personal drivers for the cars provided to them by banks are reimbursed their salaries by the banks;

(b) if so, what are the names of the banks which follow this practice;

(c) the extent to which the reimbursement is made; and

(d) whether during the pendency of employment with the banks these persons are treated as employees of the banks and enjoy all rights as other employees of the banks, if not, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (d) Indian Banks' Association has reported that Top Executives and Senior Management Grade Officers of banks who are provided with bank's car for official use and are also permitted to use these cars for personal purposes on payment, are reimbursed the salaries of the drivers engaged by them if the bank has not provided official driver alongwith the Car. This facility is available in almost all Nationalised banks. The reimbursement of the salaries is to the extent of the salary paid by the Executive/Officer to the driver engaged by him within certain ceilings and varies from bank to bank and place to place. The personal drivers engaged by the Executives/Officers are not bank employees and therefore are not entitled to rights/privileges available to regular bank employees.

Cheating of the depositors by the Central Bank of India Benz Circle Branch, Vijayawada

1999. SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the depositors of Central Bank of India, Benz Circle Branch, Vijayawada are being cheated by the Bank;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to investigate into the mysterious disappearance of money of the depositros; and

(c) whether the investigations have yielded any fruitful results?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) Central Bank of India has reported that two cases of fraudulent withdrawal have taken place at its Benz Circle Branch, Vijayawada during November, 1989 to January, 1990.

(b) and (c) On receipt of complaints from the account-holders, the bank has since re-imbursed the amount to the account-holders. In connection with this case, one clerk has been placed under suspension with effect from 31-1-1990. FIR has also been lodged with the Police.

Prices of Flue Cured Virginia Tobacco

2000. SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) how much quantity of last year's surplus flue cured virginia tobacco is estimated to be lying with the tobacco growers:

(b) how much quantity of flue cured virginia tobacco is estimated to arrive in the market during this year;

(c) whether it is a fact that the tobacco growers fear not only a glut but also a steep fall in the prices of tobacco;

(d) how much stock does the tobacco growers' union hold; and

(e) what steps Government have initiated to solve the marketing problems faced by the tobacco growers?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU):(a) None, Sir.

(b) Production of FCV tobacco in Karnataka was 15.37 M. kgs. In A.P.

it is estimated to be around 86 M.kgs. as against the target of 75 M.kgs.

(c) Yes, Sir, there is such fear in certain quarters.

(d) As per the return submitted to the Tobacco Board by the A.P. Tobacco Growers' Cooperative Union Ltd., a quantity of 1359.11 tons of FCV tobacco lying with them on 28-2-90.

(e) The Tobacco Board is keeping a close watch on the prices at the auctions & taking suitable action to ensure that the growers get reasonable price for their produce.

Setting up of Food Processing Industries in backward and tribal areas

2001. SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) how many food processing industries are working in the country at present;

(b) how many of them are manned by local entrepreneurs;

(c) whether Government sanction any grant and subsidy to start such industry in backward areas; and

(d) if so, whether there is any such industry in any of the tribal areas of the country?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (d) Food Processing Industries are in the organised, un-organised and cooperative sectors. Information in respect of all the food processing industries in different sectors is not being maintained Centrally.

Central Government gives incentives for the development of small scale industries including food processing industries in the rural and backward areas. The main incentives are term loan, working capital at concessional rates, transport subsidy for hilly and specified areas.

Payment of HRA/CCA to Bank Employees working at Gurgaon at Delhi rates

2002. PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that employees of Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Food Corporation of India and Central Schools etc. posted at Gurgaon are getting HRA/CCA at Delhi rates whereas employees of various banks located in Gurgaon are not being paid at that rate;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps Government propose to rectify the anomaly?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (c) The employees of public sector banks and those of public sector undertakings e.g. IDPL, FCI, etc. are paid pay and allowances including HRA and CCA in terms of their respective bilateral/tripartite settlements which are not identical. Hence, no rectification appears to be called for.

Supply of Water to Vishakhapatnam Steel Plant

2003. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that negotiations are going on between the Central Government and the Andhra Pradesh State Government in regard to supply of water to the Vishakhapatnam Steel Plant; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) and (b) Andhra Pradesh Government has undertaken the construction of a canal for supply of water to Vishakhapatnam Steel Plant from river Yeleru. The question of containing delay in the completion of this canal has all along been the subject matter of dis-